

United States in his official capacity which, after having been so received, became lost, destroyed, or so mutilated as to impair its value: *Provided, however,* That no such agreement of indemnity shall operate to obligate the United States in any case in which the obligee named therein makes any payment or delivery not required by law on the original of the instrument or document covered thereby. The fund shall be available for the payment of any obligation arising out of any agreement executed by the Secretary of the Treasury under this section.

(July 8, 1937, ch. 444, §3b, as added Aug. 10, 1939, ch. 665, §2, 53 Stat. 1359.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 134b-2 of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 729 of this title.

§ 726. Purchase of insurance

On and after the effective date of the regulations prescribed under section 721 of this title, no executive department, independent establishment, agency, wholly owned corporation, officer, or employee shall expend any money, or incur any obligation, for insurance, or for the payment of premiums on insurance, against loss, destruction, or damage in the shipment of valuables except as specifically authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury. The Secretary of the Treasury may give such authorization if he shall find that the risk of loss, destruction, or damage in such shipment cannot be adequately guarded against by the facilities of the United States or that the circumstances are such that adequate replacement cannot be provided under this chapter.

(July 8, 1937, ch. 444, §4, 50 Stat. 480.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 134c of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

§ 727. Presumption of lawful conduct

Every officer and employee of the United States and every person acting on behalf of a wholly owned corporation who makes a shipment of valuables in good faith pursuant to and substantially in accordance with the regulations prescribed under section 721 of this title shall be deemed, insofar as there may be concerned the propriety with respect to such shipment of any act or omission governed by such regulations, to be acting in faithful execution of his duties of office and in full performance of the conditions of his bond and oath of office, if any.

(July 8, 1937, ch. 444, §5, 50 Stat. 480.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 134d of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

§ 728. Rules and regulations

The Secretary of the Treasury shall have power, with the approval of the President, to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the execution of the functions vested in him by this chapter, and may for such purpose require persons making shipment of valuables or making claims for replacement to make such declarations or to furnish him with such other information as he may deem necessary.

(July 8, 1937, ch. 444, §6, 50 Stat. 480.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 134e of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

For delegation to Secretary of the Treasury of authority vested in President by this section, see section 2(a) of Ex. Ord. No. 10289, eff. Sept. 17, 1951, 16 F.R. 9409, set out as a note under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

§ 729. Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter—

(a) The term “valuables” means any articles or things or representatives of value in which the United States has any interest, or in connection with which it has any obligation or responsibility, direct or indirect, and which are declared to be valuables within the meaning of this chapter by the Secretary of the Treasury. No articles or things shall be declared to be valuables by the Secretary of the Treasury unless he determines that replacement thereof in accordance with the procedure established herein, in the event of loss, destruction, or damage in the course of shipment, would be in the public interest. The term “United States” as used in this subsection and in section 725 of this title means the United States, its executive departments, independent establishments, and agencies, including wholly owned corporations, and officers and employees of any of the foregoing while acting in their official capacity.

(b) The term “shipment” means the transportation, or the effecting of transportation, of valuables, without limitation as to the means or facilities used or by which the transportation, is effected or the person to whom it is made, and includes, but is not limited to, shipments made to any executive department, independent establishment, agency, wholly or partly owned corporation, officer, or employee of the United States, or any person acting on his or its behalf or at his or its direction;

(c) The term “wholly owned corporation” means any corporation, regardless of the law or laws under which it is incorporated, the capital of which is entirely owned, directly or indirectly, by the United States, and includes the duly authorized officers, employees, and agents thereof;

(d) The term “replacement” means payment, reimbursement, replacement, or duplication or the expenses incident thereto.

(July 8, 1937, ch. 444, §7, 50 Stat. 480; Aug. 10, 1939, ch. 665, §3, 53 Stat. 1359.)